

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, EIND, EFIN, HU, UR, RO

SUBJ: ORENBURG NATURAL GAS: ANOTHER CEMA PROJECT IN
THE USSR

REF: MOSCOW 13623

1. LIMITED CIRCULATION ECONOMIC DAILY VILAGGAZDASAG
ON SEPT 4 CARRIED ARTICLE ON SOVIET-HUNGARIAN COOPER-
ATION IN NATURAL GAS EXPLOITATION WHICH ADDS FURTHER
DETAILS ON ORENBURG PROJECT IN USSR (REF MOSCOW 13623).
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2. HUNGARIANS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF THEIR PORTION ORENBURG PIPELINE (580-600 KILOMETERS) IN SPRING 1976. SEGMENT WILL REQUIRE PARTICIPATION OF 20 HUNGARIAN ENTERPRISES AND WILL CROSS 35 SMALL RIVERS AND CHANNELS AND 25 HIGHWAYS. SHORTAGES OF WELDERS IN HUNGARY MAY NECESSITATE OTHER COUNTRIES HELP ON HUNGARIAN SEGMENT.

3. ARTICLE SAYS ROMANIANS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING UP A GAS PROCESSING AND CLEANING PLANT AT ORENBURG. TOWARDS THIS END, BUCHAREST "WILL PLACE HARD CURRENCY AT DISPOSAL OF SOVIET UNION FOR PURCHASE MACHINERY AND INSTALLATIONS IN THIRD COUNTRIES."

4. BY 1980 THE PIPELINE WILL CARRY 15.5 BILLION CUBIC METERS OF GAS, OF WHICH HUNGARY WILL RECEIVE 2.8 BILLION CUBIC METERS YEARLY. AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL (MOSCOW 13623), SOVIET REPAYMENT OF EAST EUROPEAN PARTICIPANTS WILL BE THROUGH DELIVERIES OF NATURAL GAS OVER TWELVE YEARS, WITH PRICE TO BE DECIDED AT TIME OF SHIPMENT THROUGH "USUAL PRICE PRINCIPLES AND METHODS."

5. COMMENT: HUNGARIANS MIGHT REQUIRE MORE THAN WELDING AID. SAME ARTICLE STATES THAT HUNGARIANS DO NOT RPT NOT HAVE EXPERIENCE IN LAYING PIPE LARGER THAN 600 MM, AND ARE PRESENTLY LEARNING FROM SOVIETS WHO ARE LAYING PORTION OF 800 MM FRIENDSHIP PIPELINE IN HUNGARY. LATTER PIPELINE SLATED TO BRING SOVIET NATURAL GAS (1 BILLION CUBIC METERS) TO HUNGARY BEGINNING IN 1975. (THIS WILL BE FIRST TIME SOVIET GAS DELIVERED TO HUNGARY.) CAPACITY OF LINE WILL BE EXPANDED BY 1978 THROUGH ADDITION COMPRESSORS TO HANDLE ORENBURG GAS.
PEDERSEN

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